

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: NATO, OREP
SUBJECT: U.S. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS VISIT NATO HQS

1. A U.S. GROUP CONSISTING MAINLY OF KEY CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS INCLUDING CHRIS LEHMAN OF SENATOR HARRY BYRD'S OFFICE, FRANK GAFFNEY OF SENATOR JACKSON'S OFFICE, CHARLES STEVENSON OF SENATOR CULVER'S OFFICE, AND MICHAEL JOY OF THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE VISITED NATO HQS. JULY 7 FOR PROGRAM OF BRIEFINGS ARRANGED BY THE NATO INFORMATION SERVICE. THE GROUP WAS IN EUROPE FOR A SEMINAR IN BONN FROM JULY 2 TO 6 ON THE IMPACT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES ON NATO'S FORCE POSTURE, ARRANGED JOINTLY BY THE GEORGETOWN CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND THE KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION.

2. THE BRUSSELS PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED AT THE INITIATIVE OF NATIS' U.S. REGIONAL OFFICER, ROBERT MILLER, AS A DESIRABLE SUPPLEMENT TO THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FRG. BRIEFING THE STAFFERS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WERE PAUL VAN CAMPEN, DIRECTOR OF SYG LUNS PRIVATE OFFICE (ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND MBFR); TONY KING-HARMON, OF THE DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY STAFF (ON THE NATO LONG TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM); AND A PANEL OF OFFICERS FROM THE
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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS.

3. SYG LUNS HOSTED A WORKING LUNCH FOR THE STAFFERS, DURING WHICH HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO WOULD BE LIFTED SOON.

4. THE STAFFERS ALSO MET WITH US MISSION POLITICAL

OFFICER JACK MENDELSON AND COMMANDER HAROLD SEXTON FOR
A 90-MINUTE DISCUSSION WHICH FOCUSSED MAINLY ON NAVAL
ASPECTS OF THE CURRENT U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET AND SALT,
INCLUDING NATO CONSULTATIONS ON THIS TOPIC.

5. MISSION AND USRO MILLER HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE
STAFFERS WERE PLEASED WITH THE VISIT HERE AND RETURNED
HOME WITH A BETTER FEEL FOR THE BRUSSELS PERSPECTIVE ON
NATO-RELATED ISSUES. IN TURN, IS BRIEFERS INDICATED TO
US THAT THEY GAINED A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT
VIEWS AND CONCERNS IN THE CONGRESS ABOUT NATO. WILSON

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